**Promote Organic farming in 15 villages In India**

**Agency, Name, Address**

**AVISHKAR - Non Governmental Organisation**

(Associations for Village Institutions, Social, Health, Agriculture and Rural development)

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**Project Title**

Transfer of Innovative Technologies for promotion of Organic farming through organic farmer’s organization And Their Capacity Building.

**Duration of project**

The project is proposed for the period of two years and its implementation will be started immediately after approval.

**Venue / Project Area**

The proposed project covers the area of 15 villages Aregujjanahalli and Seethakal gramapanchayath of Tumkur Taluka of Tumkur District in Karnataka. The total population these villages are 3956, of which population of SC / ST is 1263. The total area available for cultivation of various crops under this proposed project is 190 hectares.

**Technology Transfer involved**

It is proposed to transfer the following innovative technologies to the growers of vegetables for production of quality organic vegetables on sustainable basis by involving community.

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| **Sl. No** | **Proposed Innovative Technology / ies** | **Expected Outcome** |
| 1. | Promotion of innovative composting techniques, vermi composting and green manuring. | Production of quality and sufficient organic manures. |
| 2. | Mixed cropping and crop rotation. | Production of disease free and quality vegetables |
| 3. | Introduction and demonstration of crop based bio-fertilizers. | Impart knowledge on use and application of bio-fertilizers. |
| 4. | Preparation of botanicals and their use in pests control. | Production of eco-friendly bio-pesticides and reduction cost on external inputs. |
| 5. | Introduction of trap crops. | Minimising the outbreak of pests and diseases. |
| 6. | Promotion of post harvest technologies (Grading, packing etc) | Minimising post harvest losses of vegetables and attract buyers. |
| 7. | Establishment and maintaining Seed Bank of vegetables of OP & Traditional varieties. | Reduction cost on external inputs and conservation of gem plasm of vegetables. |
| 8. | Linkages for marketing, technologies, financial support / subsidies, study tours, soil testing and so on. | Continual support to achieve sustainability in farming system. |

**Project objectives**

1. Formation of organic farmer’s organizations at village level and their capacity building.
2. To create awareness and adopt innovative technologies of eco-friendly practices for organic vegetables production at community level.
3. To enhance vegetable production and improve productivity of land through promotion of eco-friendly agricultural practices.
4. To reduce cost of production and dependency on external inputs for production of vegetables.
5. To establish linkages of buyers, bankers, technical institutions with the growers of vegetables.

**Interventions proposed**

The following interventions are proposed to implement in the project area to achieve the project objectives with the participation of vegetable growers. The interventions have been identified based on the previous experience of the organisation and major issues noticed in the project area.

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| **Issues to be tackled** | **Interventions proposed** |
| 1. Lack of institutional arrangement and capacity building programmes for farmers especially on organic farming | * Community mobilization * Formation of organic farmers associations. * Training programmes for organic vegetable growers * Organising exposure visits to the growers * Establishing linkages with departments, bankers, buyers, technical institutions etc. |
| 2. Non availability of improved varieties of vegetables | * Set up of ‘Community Seed Bank’ * Imparting knowledge and skill for conservation of seeds and their multiplication. |
| 3. Lack of innovative technologies or improved techniques for compost / organic manures production | * Demonstration on NADEP composting, vermi composting etc * Introduction and use of bio-fertilizers * Introduction of application of Micro nutrients. * Introduction and use of green manure crops * Establishing live-fence / bio-fence * Linking the farmers with department / agencies for soil testing. |
| 4. No practice of using botanicals for pest and diseases management in crop production | * Demonstrations on preparation of botanicals / bio-pesticides like NSKE, panchagavya etc and their application. * Introduction of pheromone traps, trap crops, eradication etc. * Introducing crop rotation & mixed cropping practices |
| 5. Lack of technologies for crop production including cultural practices, water management, weeds management etc | * Introduction of technologies on weeds control, efficient water management practices and other crop production practices etc. |
| 6. No Farmers Forum for exchange of learnings out of production practices of organic vegetables. | * Organising interactive sessions for sharing of knowledge and learnings among growers. * Organising organic vegetables Melas * Cluster level workshop involving scientists, technocrats, buyers, line departments etc * Promotion of organic vegetable auction centre . |

**Number of farmers expected to participate**

The project will mainly focus on enhancing the income of small and marginal farmers in the project area. However, the preference would be given to small and marginal families and women farmers The total number of participants are proposed to cover under the project is 300 families, which they belongs to only these three villages as proposed above.

**Expected out comes**

1. Awareness will created on organic production of vegetables in 15 villages.
2. 300 farmers will be trained on organic vegetable cultivation.
3. An area of 100 ha will be converted into organic vegetable farm.
4. Documentation of issues of profitability and sustainability of organic farming and vegetable cultivation
5. Replication of organic vegetable farming practices and diffusion of technologies in nearby villages
6. The diversity of plant species will be achieved in the project villages
7. Ensure availability of healthy and pesticide free vegetables to producers and customers.
8. Sustainable use of natural resources would benefit the community both in terms of ecology and environment.
9. The economical status of the project beneficiaries will be improved up to 30% by end of the project period.

**Relevance of the Project:**

The cost of vegetable production has been increasing in alarming rate due to more dependency on external inputs like seeds, pesticides, weedicides, and fertilizers. Excessive application of these chemicals leads negative impact on soil as well as environment. The soil biota has drastically deteriorated due to excessive use of these chemicals. Similarly, human beings, animals, plant diversity and beneficial insects are also being affected by these chemicals. An increasing investment on crop production has resulted in many farmers to get into the debt trap or commit suicide. Also many of the rural youths are being migrated to urban areas in search of jobs due to these problems. Keeping these issues in mind, the project proposal has been prepared to achieve the following;

1. Formation and strengthening village level institutions like organic farmers organizations
2. Make the community to aware about importance and advantages of organic agriculture using locally available natural resources.
3. Reduction in the cost production by reducing dependency on external inputs and faster the rate of diffusion of innovative technologies for improving the production and productivity of land at community level.
4. Creating more opportunities for rural community to enhance their income level.
5. Establishing organic linkages between growers and other agencies like buyers, bankers, technical institutions etc.
6. Achieving crop diversity, environmental sustainability and healthy foods for all.

The project is envisaged to provide marginal support to small and marginal farmers enabling them to shift from chemical farming to organic farming in a phased manner. With this support, farmers are expected to adopt organic farming practices for vegetable cultivation which is going to enhance the productivity and achieve sustainability in the long run.

**Background of the Project Implementation Agency:**

AVISHKAR is a non- governmental, non- profit, voluntary organisation conceived by a group of dedicated, young, social development professionals. The organisation was started in the year 2004 to initiate sustainable agriculture, social and rural development activities. The NGO aims to participate actively in the social transformation process and it is committed to provide services for the development of children, women, farming community, vulnerable sections of the society with active involvement in development process.

The organisation aims to empower marginalised rural community with special emphasis on the following development programmes such as organic farming women empowerment, child education, sustainable agriculture, community health and natural resource management to accomplish sustainable, social and economic development. AVISHKAR is presently working in most drought prone areas of 135 villages of the Tumkur, Koratagere and Madhugiri talukas in Tumkur district, Karnataka state

**Budget for Organic farming Project In 15 villages**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sl.No.** | **Activity** | **Unit** | **No of units** | **Unit Rate** | **Amount (Indian currency)** |
| **PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION COST** | | | | | |
| 1. | Conducting organic vegetable crop demonstrations including inputs and technology cost of seeds biofertiliers,biopesticides and organic fertilizers | Families | 300 | 800 | 240000 |
| 2. | Soil testing services for small and marginal farmers | Families | 300 | 100 | 30000 |
| 3. | Enriched compost techniques Vermicomposting & Japan composting (only demonstration each village three components) | Numbers | 45 | 5000 | 225000 |
| 4. | Promotion of Kitchen garden nutritional garden For women farmers | Numbers | 15 | 500 | 7500 |
| 5. | Promotion of community seed bank | families | 10 | 300 | 3000 |
| 6. | Promotion of sustainable integrated farming including Forestry trees, fruit plants,crops,fodder,livestock, beekeeping in one acre (each village two pro active small and marginal farmers) | Numbers | 30 | 5000 | 150000 |
| **TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING** | | | | | |
| 1. | Training on organic farming practices in vegetable cultivation and exposure visits to organic farms. | Trainee | 30 | 500 | 15000 |
| 2. | Training on improved composting techniques | Trainee | 25 | 300 | 7500 |
| 3. | Training on soil testing, seed treatment , application of bio fertilizers | Trainee | 50 | 500 | 25000 |
| 4. | Establishing market study/market linkages | Trainee | 25 | 300 | 7500 |
| 5. | Organizing vegetable mela cum work shop to create awareness buyers and consumers. | Trainee | 30 | 300 | 9000 |
| **ADMINISTRATION COST** | | | | | |
| 1. | Project coordinator-01 | Months | 24 | 9000 | 216000 |
| 2. | Women community organizer-01 | Months | 24 | 4000 | 96000 |
| 3. | Travel expenses for Project coordinator & community organizer | Per month | 24 | 2000 | 48000 |
| 4. | Stationary, postage, telephone, Xerox, report preparation & other administration charges | Per month | 24 | 1500 | 36000 |
| **Total** | | | | | **11,24,500** |